



MARY ROSE GARRIDO WILCOX SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 5

Featured Story

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Maricopa County Gets 'A' on Report Card

Maricopa County does 'A' work! Governing Magazine recently reviewed 40 of the nation's largest counties. Two of the counties were graded with an 'A-' overall, the highest score allotted and Maricopa County was one of them.

[More Information](#)

County Passes Vehicle Idling Restriction Ordinance

Heavy Duty Diesel Engine Restriction to Reduce Tons of Pollution

(Phoenix) - The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance today that will help to reduce tons of Valley pollution, conserve energy and save money by restricting heavy duty diesel engine idling. The Environmental Services Department will begin implementing the ordinance, which was recommended by the Governor's Brown Cloud Summit and required by House Bill 2538, on July 1, 2002.

"I'm a big supporter of this new ordinance," says District 5 Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox. "This policy begins to address the issue of trucks idling and impacting air quality in neighborhoods. In my district, we see many, many big trucks and other large vehicles idling and spitting out pollution into our air."

Signs at truck stops and distribution centers will outline the ordinance, which restricts idling to a maximum of five consecutive minutes for the following types of vehicles:

- gross vehicle weight rating of more than 14,000 pounds,
- designed and registered to operate on public highways,
- powered by a diesel engine.

Through a \$100,000 appropriation from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, the Environmental Services Department will hire a full time employee, provide educational materials, and purchase a vehicle. Initial efforts will focus on education and outreach to industry, distribution centers and truck stops, and truck drivers. Part of the education process will include working with trade associations to notify membership, updating a local government agencies, including law enforcement, and conducting onsite inspections at distribution centers and trucking firms.

"This policy begins to address the issue of trucks idling and impacting air quality in neighborhoods," said Al Brown, Director of the Environmental Services Department. "Reducing idling can substantially cut down on the amount of pollution emitted into our air," Brown said.